AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace the paragraph at page 3, lines 4-12, with the following amended paragraph:

Before expulsion of the tampon, the feminine hygiene product can further comprise a region of rupture on the rupturable membranous cap and a tampon holder tube region of rupture on the tampon holder tube. The region of rupture and [[a]] the tampon holder tube region of rupture may be in contact with one another before expulsion of the tampon. The region of rupture on the rupturable membranous cap and the tampon holder tube region of rupture on the tampon holder tube can have a configuration selected from a group consisting of C-shaped, conical, diagonal, arched, parabolic, round, and semi-spherical. The region of rupture on the rupturable membranous cap and the tampon holder tube region of rupture on the tampon holder tube may comprise perforations.

Please replace the paragraph at page 3, line 22, with the following amended paragraph:

FIG. 2 is a cut out cross-section view along the longitudinal axis ~~a line 2-2 of FIG. 1a~~.

Please replace the paragraph at page 5, lines 24-27, with the following amended paragraph:

By the terms "**directionally expel[[,]]**", "**directed expulsion,**" or "**directional expulsion**" it is meant herein that embodiments of the feminine hygiene product 50 of the present invention that will expel along the longitudinal axis 22 of the tampon holder 10 before reorientation of the tampon 14 by the rupturable membranous cap 16.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 24 to page 7, line 2, with the following amended paragraph:

The feminine hygiene product 50 has a pre-expelled state, a partially expelled state, and an expelled state. During the pre-expelled state, as is readily seen in FIG. 1a, the tampon 14 sits within the tampon holder tube 19 and is substantially aligned with the tampon holder tube 19. The tampon 14 can remain snugly therein without any outside force to sustain its position in the tampon holder tube 19. A portion of the feminine hygiene product 50 comprises a tampon holder tube 19 having a hollow interior portion (not shown), an interior surface (not shown), an outer perimeter (shown) 20, an exterior surface (shown) 21, longitudinal axis 22, a first end 17, a second end 23 positioned oppositely to the first end 17, a first top portion 45, a second top portion 46 which is adjacent to the first top portion 45, and a finger grip 12.

Please replace the paragraph at page 9, lines 11-16, with the following amended paragraph:

Referring to FIG. 1a, generally, the rupturable membranous cap 16 helps to change the orientation of the tampon 14 as it passes through the tampon holder tube 19 along the longitudinal axis 22. The rupturable membranous cap 16 has a top 42, a bottom 38, and the ~~hinged~~ hinge 39 (FIG. 2). As shown in FIG. 3, the bottom 38 of the rupturable membranous cap 16 is adjacent to the regions of rupture 18 and the tampon holder tube 19. As also shown in FIG. 3, the hinge 39 is adjacent to the tampon holder tube 19.

Please replace the paragraph at page 10, lines 12-21, with the following amended paragraph:

It is further noted herein that the shape, size, or configuration of the rupturable membranous cap 16 may vary as long as the rupturable membranous cap 16 remains joined to the tampon 14 and reorients the tampon 14 during expulsion of the tampon 14. The rupturable membranous cap 16 is in no way limited by the size or shape that it may assume except that it should not hinder the expulsion of the tampon 14. One of skill in the art will readily recognize obvious variants on those presented in the patent application herein. One versed in the art can imagine that the shape of the rupturable membranous cap 16 might be circular, square, rectangular, triangular, arced, curved, or any other conceivable shape possible as long as any such shape would work effectively to fully and properly ~~aide~~ aid in joining the tampon 14 to the rupturable membranous cap 16 and reorienting the tampon 14.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 28 to page 11, line 6, with the following amended paragraph:

Referring to FIG. 3, the rupturable membranous cap 16 comprises a hinge 39. The hinge 39 is located at the bottom 38 of the rupturable membranous cap 16. The hinge 39 fixedly attaches the rupturable membranous cap 16 and the tampon holder tube 19. In other words, the hinge 39 is located adjacent to the second top portion 46 of the tampon holder tube 19. The hinge 39 does not contain any regions of rupture 18. During expulsion, after the regions of rupture 18 are ruptured, the hinge 39 ~~aides~~ aids the rupturable membranous cap 16 to remain fixedly and flexibly joined to the tampon holder tube 19. The hinge 39 also aids in the reorientation of the tampon 14. Thus, the hinge 39 of the rupturable membranous cap 16 is a flexible part of the rupturable membranous cap 16 permanently associated with the tampon holder tube 19. Moreover, the hinge 39 could be extensible. In one non-limiting example, the hinge 39 could be moving parts which connect the rupturable membranous cap 16 and the tampon holder tube 19.

Please see a replacement (or new) abstract on the attached separate sheet.